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The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar :—" We expect to receive the report even to-day and as soon as the report is received, the question will be considered. "

Medical

Separate wards for Adi-Dravida patients in the Women and Children Hospital, Calicut.

* 1806 Q.—Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the Women and Children Hospital, Calicut, Adi-Dravida patients are given separate wards in mean out-houses ? "

A.—The Government have no information and if any case of hardship is brought to the notice of Government, inquiries will be made.

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to call for the information ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" If the hon. Member gives one or two definite instances in which women of this class are not properly treated, it will be easy for the Government to enquire."

Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" My question is whether these women are put in separate wards. "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" I shall call for the information. "

Separation of the post of Principal, Medical College, from Superintendent, General Hospital, Madras.

* 1807 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what led the Government some years ago to appoint two different officers, one as the Principal, Medical College, Madras, and the other as the Superintendent, General Hospital, Madras, in the place of one single officer who, as the Senior Medical Officer in the Hospital was its Superintendent and at the same time was Principal, Medical College, Madras ;

(b) whether at that time the officer who was the Principal and also Senior Medical Officer was allowed private practice ;

(c) whether he was doing any professional work in the General Hospital apart from supervision and administrative control over the staff in the General Hospital ;

(d) whether the Superintendent, General Hospital, is now allowed to do professional work both in the hospital and outside in his private capacity ;

(e) whether the Superintendent, General Hospital, exercises control over the physicians and surgeons in their professional as well as administrative work in the General Hospital ;

(f) whether the Superintendent, General Hospital, is now doing the work of a First Surgeon, General Hospital, and the work of the First Surgeon is in any way different from the work of the other Surgeons in the General Hospital ;

(g) whether the First Surgeon, General Hospital, was under the control of the then Senior Medical Officer before this post was bifurcated into two as mentioned in (a); and

(h) whether any one is now controlling the work of the First Surgeon, General Hospital, as the Senior Medical Officer was doing at that time?

A.—(a) Prior to 1912, the control of the Madras Medical College and of the General Hospital was vested in one officer, who had neither teaching work in the College nor professional work in the hospital. The absence of facilities for professional work in the hospital combined with a salary smaller than that of Professors led to difficulty in finding a suitable officer to hold the combined appointment. In order to remedy this, the Government decided to abolish the appointment, and to entrust the duties of the Principal to a selected senior professor of the College, and those of the senior Medical Officer of the General Hospital to one of the senior physicians or surgeons of that institution.

(b) He was allowed only consulting private practice.

(c) No.

(d) The Superintendent has to do professional work in the hospital in his capacity as physician or surgeon. He is also allowed consulting private practice.

(e) The Superintendent exercises only administrative control over the work of the physicians and surgeons in the hospital. He in no way interferes with the professional work of the physicians and surgeons.

(f) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. There is no difference in the nature of the work of the three surgeons, so far as their hospital work is concerned.

(g) For administrative purposes only; in his professional work he was quite independent.

(h) The Surgeon-General controls the administrative work which the First Surgeon performs in his capacity of Superintendent just as he controlled the work of the former Senior Medical Officer. So far as his professional work is concerned the First Surgeon is in the same position as he was previously [vide answer to clause (g)].

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"With reference to clause (d) may I know whether the Superintendent of the Generel Hospital has any private practice outside the hospital?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"Sir, the reason given by Government for the splitting up of that appointment is that they could not find officers willing to take up that job, because there was no professional work. I should like to ask whether the Government are aware that persons holding this appointment were made Surgeon-General after exhibiting their skill in administrative work. The senior officer of the General Hospital was made Superintendent

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of the Hospital and Principal of the College and after serving for three years he was promoted as Surgeon-General. There were always men available for this post as long as it served as a stepping-stone to the Surgeon-Generalship. Are the Government now justified in saying that they have stopped that practice because men were not available ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Under the circumstances then existing it was thought that this was the proper course. The hon. Member says that after serving for three years as Superintendent of the General Hospital he would become the Surgeon-General ; but it was not considered to be a sufficient bait for these people "

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. Member aware that Surgeon-General Giffard, Symmons and Brown had been all Superintendents and Principals before they became Surgeon-General and it is only now that they are importing an outsider as a Surgeon-General into this Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The facts are as stated."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, the Chemical Examiner to the Government of Madras was not allowed private practice ; he stayed for seven or eight hours a day in the premises and for six days in the week. He was given the principalship of the College. Colonel Miller and Colonel Van Gayzel were all Chemical Examiners and Principals of the Medical College. They were not allowed private practice ; the administration was efficient. Now that private practice is allowed, there is slackness in administration."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am not sure whether this practice leads to corruption in administration. Government thought that this was one line of progress ; and if the hon. Member has any objections he may formulate them."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Superintendent has got quarters inside the General Hospital ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No, Sir."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" What are his hours for private practice ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether his hours for private practice are the same as those for his professional work in the hospital ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I presume his private practice will be carried on outside office hours in his house. If the hon. Member wants definite information, he must give notice."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether the Superintendent is allowed to have consulting practice in the hospital itself ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No, Sir."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Therefore any consulting practice during office hours is not countenanced by the Government ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Minister has stated that he presumes that it is done outside office hours."

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Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA:—"Is the practice limited to consultation only? Do the Government allow any other practice?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I can't say."

Fees at the X-ray Institute, Madras.

* 1808 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that out of the fees charged for work done for the private patients both at the X-ray Institute, General Hospital, Madras, and at the King Institute, Guindy, only 20 per cent goes to the Government treasury and the other 80 per cent is being distributed amongst the staff of those institutions;

(*b*) whether the persons who collect such fees are the subordinates of the officers in charge of the institutions;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the grade of pay of the officers in these institutions is higher than that of the same rank of officers working in other medical institutions;

(*d*) whether the officers and their subordinates in the X-ray Institute, General Hospital, Madras, and the King Institute, Guindy, receive a special pay in addition to their graded salaries;

(*e*) whether these officers and their assistants are prohibited from private practice;

(*f*) if the reply to (*e*) is in the negative, what is the purpose of granting these officers and their assistants a special pay;

(*g*) why should these officers be doubly remunerated by being given a special pay in addition to the distribution of 80 per cent of the fees earned by the Government in these institutions; and

(*h*) will the Government consider the advisability of crediting the whole fees earned at the X-ray Institute, General Hospital, and at the King Institute, Guindy, to the Government treasury?

A.—(*a*) The proportion of the fees credited to the Government is as follows:—

King Institute, Guindy.—Twenty-five per cent of the fees realized from private Bacteriological work.

X ray Institute.—(i) Twenty-five per cent of the fees paid by private patients who consult Captain Barnard in his private capacity, and

(ii) Fifty per cent of the fees paid by private patients who are sent to the Institute for treatment by their own medical advisers.

(*b*) The Government have no information as to whether the fees are paid direct to the officers in charge or to their subordinates.

(*c*) Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the King Institute draw higher scales of pay than officers of the same rank in ordinary medical institutions. In the X-ray Institute, no higher scale of pay is given.